

Atlantic Richfield Company

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February 4 2014

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Jere Johnson
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-9-1
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: January 2014 Monthly Report, Yerington Mine Site, Lyon County, Nevada: Administrative Order for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS), CERCLA Docket No. 9-2007-0005; Administrative Order on Consent, CERCLA Docket No. 09-2009-0010

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Pursuant to the above referenced orders issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 9 (EPA), Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC) has prepared this January 2014 monthly report for RI/FS and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities at the Yerington Mine Site (Site).

January 2014 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continued Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities. Cameras at various locations (e.g., Main and Arimetco gates, entrances to buildings) indicated no activity of concern.
- Installed bird mitigation balloons over FMS Evaporation Ponds B and C, and an underwater speaker diving-bird deterrent system was tested in FMS Evaporation Pond B. Wind dancers, bird deterrent flags and Bird Gard towers continued to be deployed around the Pumpback Well System (PWS) Evaporation Pond and the Lined Evaporation Pond (LEP). Propane cannons remained deployed around the FMS Evaporation Pond A and the Slot Pond. To reduce birds becoming habituated to wind dancers and flags remaining in one location, these devices were re-located as needed, based on observations by Site O&M personnel. Bird mitigation training occurred on January 7-9.
- Water levels in the PWS Evaporation Pond at the end of September were as follows: North Cell = 0.0 feet; Middle Cell = 0.36 feet; South Cell = 0.5 feet, a result of past and recent precipitation events.
- Arimetco FMS pond levels: Phase 1 Pond = 4.5 feet; FMS Evaporation Pond A = 9.34 feet; FMS Evaporation Pond B = 2.42 feet; FMS Evaporation Pond C = 2.67 feet; VLT Pond = 13.67 feet; Slot Pond = 14.37 feet. Approximately 317,825 gallons of solution were transferred from the VLT Pond to FMS Evaporation Ponds B and C in late January. See attached monitoring data.
- Approximately 21,476 gallons of solution were pumped from the leak detectors, including 10,543 gallons from the VLT Pond/Sediment Pond and 9,753 gallons from the Slot Pond. See attached monitoring data.
- Pipelines on top of the VLT heap leach pad were inspected, with no damage found.

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January 2014 Activities - Continued

Site Security and O&M Activities - Continued

- Reviewed the construction report for FMS Evaporation Ponds B and C, with no comments.
- Completed the construction of the radio communication tower foundation.
- Completed the installation of new spring-loaded vault covers on pumpback wells.
- Prepared a final electrical inspection and maintenance checklist for Site O&M activities.

Site Characterization Activities

- Monthly groundwater elevation measurements were obtained on January 21-24.
- A pit lake water elevation of 4230.83 feet amsl was recorded on December 21 from the pressure transducer, an increase of approximately 0.37 feet since December 21, 2013. The pit lake elevation has risen approximately 1.87 feet since January 21, 2013.
- Signed access agreements were received from the owners of new wells DW-206 and DW-207. These wells were added to the domestic well sampling program and will be initially sampled in March 2014. Signed access agreements also were received from new owners of current wells DW-136 and DW-181. The sampling frequency of DW-107 was revised to quarterly from semi-annually, as this residence no longer receives bottled water.
- The owner of DW-107 requested to be removed from the Bottled Water Program, but will still allow sampling of the domestic well. DW-120 was added to the Bottled Water Program.
- Transmitted the third quarter (3Q) 2013 Domestic Well Monitoring Report (DWMR) and the 3Q 2013 Groundwater Monitoring Report (GMR) on January 22 and 27, respectively.
- Continued compiling data for inclusion in the 2013 Annual DWMR and 2013 Annual GMR.
- The Additional Monitor Well Installation Work Plan continued with drilling and zonal sampling (14 samples) at the B/W-50 and B/W-83 locations. Monitor wells B/W-83B and -83D3 were installed. A signed access agreement was received for drilling at the B/W-69 location.
- Continued the preparation of the Revised Groundwater RI Work Plan and associated responses to comments.
- Continued the preparation of a draft work plan for Single-Step Chemical Extraction (Leach) Tests, which was requested by EPA in Comment #44 on the Revised Groundwater RI Work Plan.
- Continued preparation of the draft report summarizing initial groundwater flow modeling results.
- Continued work on the DSR for the OU-3 sub-surface utility and dry well investigations.
- Continued the characterization of Process Areas soils - 56 borings were completed for a total of 1,365 feet of drilling. A total of 351 original samples were collected, and a total of 62 QC samples were collected. Desert Engineering and Tri-State continued drill site prep work and surveying of completed boring locations, respectively.
- Initiated the compilation of hydrocarbon chemical data obtained from Process Areas drilling to be used in discussions with NDEP and EPA regarding future step-outs.
- Completed and transmitted (via website upload) the Draft Anaconda Evaporation Ponds Supplemental Characterization Work Plan dated January 31, 2014.
- Attended a Community Meeting in Yerington on January 8.
- Routine database management activities in support of Site investigations and monitoring.

Planned February/March 2014 Activities

Site Security and O&M Activities

- Continue routine Site O&M, security and bird deterrent activities.
- Continue the development of a technical memorandum that incorporates the two new evaporation ponds into the calibrated water balance model for Arimetco heap leach pad drain-down projections under a range of operating scenarios.

Planned February/March 2014 Activities - Continued

Site Characterization Activities

- Continue groundwater elevation and pit lake level measurements, and meteorological monitoring.
- Continue the Bottled Water Program.
- Continue to compile 4Q groundwater and domestic well monitoring data for inclusion in the 2013 Annual GMR and DWMR, respectively.
- Conduct the 1Q 2014 groundwater and domestic well monitoring events, respectively, in February and March.
- Transmit draft Remedial Action Objectives (RAOs) for the Site-Wide Groundwater Operable Unit (OU).
- Transmit the revised Site-Wide Groundwater (OU-1) RI Work Plan and responses to comments.
- Transmit the Draft Groundwater Flow Model Report.
- Transmit a Technical Memorandum for the reduction of analytical parameters associated with Site-Wide groundwater monitoring.
- Continue field work associated with the Additional Monitor Well Work Plan.
- Transmit hard copies of the Draft Anaconda Evaporation Ponds Supplemental Characterization Work Plan (electronic copy uploaded to the EPA web site on January 31).
- Transmit the DSR for the Phase II geophysical and soil investigations associated with sub-surface utilities in the Process Areas.
- Continue field work associated with the Process Areas Step-Out Drilling Program.
- Review data quality objectives for the Wabuska Drain (OU-7) RI Work Plan when received.

Please contact me at (714) 228-6774 or via e-mail at jack.oman@bp.com if you have any questions or comments about the January 2014 monthly report.

Sincerely,



Jack Oman
Project Manager

Attachment

cc: Dave Seter, EPA – via electronic mail
Harry Ball, EPA – via electronic mail
Andrew Helmlinger, EPA – via electronic mail
Tom Dunkelman, EPA – via electronic mail
Greg Lovato, NDEP – via electronic mail
Jeryl Gardner, NDEP – via electronic mail
Tom Olsen, BLM – via electronic mail
Dan Newell, City of Yerington – via electronic mail
Phyllis Hunewill – via electronic mail
Virgil Arellano, Lyon County Commissioner – via electronic mail
Rob Loveberg, Lyon County Planning Department – via electronic mail
Tom Grady, Nevada State Assembly – via electronic mail
Chairwoman Howard, YPT – via electronic mail
John Mosely, YPT – via electronic mail
Deborah Dunn, YPT – via electronic mail
Dietrick McGinnis, McGinnis and Associates – via electronic mail
Tom Bowden, Ridolfi, Inc. – via electronic mail
Chairwoman McFalls, WRPT – via electronic mail

Tad Williams, WRPT – via electronic mail
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Marc Ferries, Atlantic Richfield Company – via electronic mail
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